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*our file  
Joint Study Group  
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USIB-M-153  
2 May 1961

# UNITED STATES INTELLIGENCE BOARD

Minutes of  
One-hundred-fifty-third Meeting  
United States Intelligence Board  
USIB Conference Room, Administration Building  
Central Intelligence Agency, at 1030, 2 May 1961

Deputy Director of Central Intelligence  
General Charles P. Cabell  
Presiding

## MEMBERS PRESENT

Mr. Thomas L. Hughes, acting for Director of Intelligence and Research,  
Department of State  
General Graves B. Erskine, Assistant for Special Operations to the  
Secretary of Defense  
Brigadier General C. F. Leonard, Jr., Acting Assistant Chief of Staff  
for Intelligence, Department of the Army  
Rear Admiral Vernon L. Lowrance, Assistant Chief of Naval Operations  
(Intelligence), Department of the Navy  
Major General James H. Walsh, Assistant Chief of Staff, Intelligence,  
United States Air Force  
Vice Admiral Laurence H. Frost, Director, National Security Agency  
Rear Admiral William S. Post, Jr., acting for Director for Intelligence,  
Joint Staff  
Mr. Harry S. Traynor, Atomic Energy Commission representative  
to the USIB  
Mr. Rolland O. L'Allier, acting for Federal Bureau of Investigation  
representative to the USIB

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1. FBI Representation  
on USIB Committees

The Chairman announced that Mr. William O. Cregar had been designated as the new FBI representative on the various committees of the Board, replacing Mr. Meffert W. Kuhrtz, who had been transferred to another assignment. After welcoming Mr. Cregar the Chairman stated that Mr. Kuhrtz had long been associated with the intelligence community and had probably achieved an all-time record for attendance at both IAC and USIB meetings. He and the other members of the Board then joined in expressing their appreciation for Mr. Kuhrtz' substantial contribution to the community and wished him well on any new assignments. Mr. Kuhrtz in response noted that his association with IAC and USIB activities since July 1950 had been a most valuable experience and thanked the members for the many courtesies extended in the past and their best wishes for the future.

2. Intelligence Activities  
in Certain Area

(See Special Annex to these minutes.)

3. Proposed Publication  
of Article

General Erskine advised the members regarding the nature of an article which a free-lance writer proposed to publish and for which the author had sought certain background data. After discussion the consensus of the Board was that it would be undesirable from a security standpoint for members of the intelligence community to purport to authorize or otherwise provide the type of background data which the writer appeared to be seeking.

4. Approval of Minutes  
25 April Meeting  
(USIB-M-152)

Approved as circulated.

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5. Watch Committee Reports  
No. 560 and 560A

Noted.

6. Review of Sensitive Situations

The Chairman commented on the situation in Laos, especially with respect to the status of any cease-fire negotiations.

Mr. Smith invited attention to the announcement of the forthcoming marriage of the King of Jordan to a non-Arab Moslem of English extraction, and the members exchanged views on possible political repercussions in the Arab world.

7. USIB-C-29.2/16  
21 April 1961  
(Distributed through special channels)

(See Special Annex to these minutes.)

8. USIB-C-5.5/1  
27 April 1961  
(Distributed through special channels)

(See Special Annex to these minutes.)

9. Coordination of Plans for  
New Periodic Foreign  
Intelligence Publications  
(USIB-D-39.6/9, 18 April)

After discussion the Board noted the memorandum and approved the recommendations in paragraph 5 subject to the following amendments:

a. Insert a new paragraph 3. c. to read:

"The new publication might better replace an existing publication or some parts thereof."

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- b. Delete "as appropriate" in last line of paragraph 4.
- c. Change last line of subparagraph 5. b. to read:

" . . . Intelligence, who, if there is any disagreement, will consult with USIB. " \*

10. Composition of Coordination Staff

With respect to the proposal regarding the composition of the Coordination Staff (draft DCID No. 1/10, Coordination Staff, USIB-D-55.2/1 (Rev.), 17 February 1961), General Balmer stated that the DCI had decided not to press for final action on that matter pending the results of any reorganization within the Department of Defense which might have a bearing on the problem. In this connection General Cabell noted that the DCI was anxious to have the Coordination Staff converted into a community mechanism as soon as possible. Accordingly, he suggested that any nominations to the Coordination Staff by Board members would be welcome.

11. Implementation of NSC-Approved  
Recommendation re Review of  
Plans and Programs of Intelligence  
Community  
(USIB-D-1.5/7, 27 April)

General Balmer noted that consideration of this item had been deferred until the next USIB meeting, pursuant to the request of a Board member.

12.



- a. Approved as amended.
- b. No member objected to the release of this estimate to USIA.

\* A revised memorandum incorporating these Board-approved changes will be circulated as USIB-D-39.6/9 (Rev.), Final USIB-Approved, 2 May 1961

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13. Arrangements for Providing  
Appropriate Data to Congress  
re Possible Soviet Clandestine  
Nuclear Testing

The Chairman referred to the earlier understanding of the Board that, following completion of certain further studies by JAEIC and of SNIE 11-9-61, "The Possibility of Soviet Nuclear Testing During the De Facto Moratorium," USIB would consider the question of possible revision of a 22 December 1959 letter to Senator Jackson, as previously recommended by General Walsh (USIB-M-147, item 4, last paragraph). He then outlined a course of action and invited comments by the Board. Following an expression of views by members, including General Walsh, it was agreed that: (a) SNIE 11-9-61 (including Annex A, but not Annex B) would be forwarded to the Joint Committee on Atomic Energy; (b) the Chairman of JAEIC would provide an appropriate oral briefing of the Committee on this subject; and (c) in view of the above arrangements and Senator Jackson's membership on the Joint Committee there would be no need to prepare and forward any revised letter to Senator Jackson.

14. Restricted Session

The Chairman requested a restricted session, in the course of which it was agreed that NIE 11-61, "Probable Intelligence Warning of Soviet Attack on the US," should have no Annexes (USIB-M-149, item 2.c.). However, action on the question of the disposition of certain material pertinent to any further study of the warning problem was deferred.

The Board also noted Mr. Smith's statement that coordination of Annexes A and B to SNIE 11-9-61, "The Possibility of Soviet Nuclear Testing During the De Facto Moratorium," had been completed and concurred in the view that they be considered as Board-approved without further reference to the Board (USIB-M-152, item 7.c.).

Adjournment: 1225

  
JOHN HEIRES  
Executive Secretary

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SECRETARY' S NOTE

Copies of NIE 11-61, "Probable Intelligence Warning of Soviet  
Attack on the US, "

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